

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 02170 260804Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 NASA-01 ERDA-05 FEA-01 NRC-05
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C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 2170

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: TPHY TATT CH US ETRD
SUBJ: VISIT TO PRC OF NASA SCIENTIST

1. ANDREW R. CHI, AN EMPLOYEE OF THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION (NETWORK ENGINEERING DIVISION OF THE GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER), CALLED AT USLO ON SEPTEMBER 21 TO BRIEF US ON HIS VISIT TO THE PRC. THE PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT WAS TO SEE HIS AGED PARENTS WHO LIVE IN PEKING, BUT WHILE HERE HE WAS INVITED BY PRC OFFICIALS TO TALK WITH CHINESE SCIENTISTS ABOUT HIS SPECIALTY, "FREQUENCY AND TIME" AND ATOMIC RESONANCE.

2. CHI GAVE SEVERAL LECTURES TO VARIOUS GROUPS OF CHINESE SCIENTISTS, INCLUDING A NUMBER WHO HAD COME FROM OTHER PROVINCES. TOWARD THE END OF HIS STAY HE WAS TAKEN TO A LABORATORY IN THE PEKING AREA AND SHOWN TWO ATOMIC CLOCKS (CESIUM STANDARDS) WHICH HAD BEEN DESIGNED AND BUILT BY THE INSTITUTE OF METROLOGY. HE JUDGED THE STANDARDS TO BE WELL-MADE, BUT OF A DESIGN AND QUALITY WHICH MADE THEM TWO ORDERS OF MAGNITUDE LESS ACCURATE THAN US-PRODUCED STANDARDS. THE CHINESE QUESTIONED CHI CLOSELY
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FOR HIS VIEWS ON HOW THE STANDARDS COULD BE IMPROVED AND THE PROCEDURES (INCLUDING EXPORT CONTROL) FOR BUYING SUCH STANDARDS IN THE UNITED STATES. (COMMENT: THE PRC HAS ALREADY CONTRACTED WITH OCILLOSCOPE S.A. OF SWITZERLAND TO PURCHASE ATOMIC CLOCKS INCORPORATING US MADE CESIUM BEAM TUBES.)

3. CHI TOLD US THAT HE WAS RECEIVED VERY
COURTEOUS TREATMENT DURING HIS VISIT AND THAT
HE EXPERIENCED ONLY ONE UNPLEASANT INCIDENT.
WHEN PRC OFFICIALS THOUGHT HE WAS BEING
UNCOOPERATIVE, THE SUGGESTED THAT HE
HAD RETURNED TO THE HOME OF HIS ANCESTORS AND
THAT HE HAD AN OBLIGATION TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION
TO THE MODERNIZATION OF CHINA.

4. FULL MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION BEING POUCHED.
DEAN

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 26-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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